

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Anderson Hall, Kansas State University

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Kansas State University

CITY, TOWN

Manhattan

STATE

Kansas

CODE

20

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

No. 2, Jim Jeffries

COUNTY

Riley

CODE

161

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT

☒ PUBLIC

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ PRIVATE

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ PARK

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ BOTH

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

☒ EDUCATIONAL

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ SITE

☐ PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ OBJECT

☐ IN PROCESS

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ NO

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Board of Regents, State of Kansas

STREET & NUMBER

1416 Merchants National Bank

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas

66612

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Riley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Manhattan

STATE

Kansas

66052

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Ks. State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas

66612

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
100-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES **1879 -1885**
 BUILDER/ARCHITECT **Erasmus T. Carr**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Since its completion, Anderson Hall has been the administrative center of Kansas State University, one of the first land grant colleges founded under the Morrill Act. Known simply as the "College Main Building" from 1884 to 1902, it has been used for almost everykind of activity from classrooms and recreation to laboratories and library. Anderson Hall is a visual landmark that has become a symbol of the university, evidencing its beginnings, growth, and stability.

Anderson Hall is also a noteworthy example of high Victorian Gothic design. Very few substantial changes have been made in the building since it was completed in 1884. Conceived as a single design in 1878, the structure was constructed in stages as the necessary appropriations were made by the state legislature. At the time it was finished, it was one of the largest and most imposing academic buildings in the state.

Chronology

Plans for the building were prepared in 1878 by Erasmus T. Carr, an architect who had come to Kansas in territorial days to work at Ft. Leavenworth. The configuration of a central and two end blocks joined by lower pavillions was typical of many institutional buildings erected in the United States from early in the nineteenth century until the 1880's.

After he designed the Kansas State Penitentiary, which was begun in 1863 and finally completed after the Civil War, Carr became one of the most successful architects practicing in Kansas. He designed the Kansas exhibit building for the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. *(Division of Architectural Services have the plans) UK*

Prior to his work at KSAC, Carr had the commission for a state Normal School built at Emporia in 1872. This building burned in 1878, but was replaced by another almost exactly like it. An existing view shows a four-story masonry structure with a tripartite plan. Its resemblance to Anderson Hall is striking. There is a central tower above the main block and there are porches along the pavillions connecting the central and end blocks. In the design for Anderson Hall then, Carr seems to have simplified and refined an idea which he had worked out earlier.

In November 1878, even before the north wing was completed, Carr finished the plans for the rest of the building. He began serving as state architect early in 1879. Holding this position until May, 1885, he supervised the design and construction of several state buildings including work on the capitol in Topeka.

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Excavation for the north wing of the first major building on the Kansas State Agricultural College began March 27, 1878. This block was completed in February, 1879. It was known as the "Practical Agricultural Building." As one student recalled, "it seemed so great and grand in comparison with the rooms in the Old Barn." Cost of this structure was \$11,000. Jacob Winne of Manhattan was the masonry contractor and Henry Bennett of Silver Lake was the general contractor.

Work began on the central block of the "College Main Building" in 1881 and was finished in 1882. Will and Ed Ulrich of Manhattan were the masonry contractors; James H. Lynch was the carpentry contractor; C.D. Marvin was the painting contractor. Cost of the structure was slightly over \$20,000. The south wing of the building was built in 1884 for \$10,869. J. A. Nichols of Atchison was the general contractor. Three years later in 1887, the chapel in the rear of the building was extended 25' to the west. This addition was designed by J.D. Walters of the KSAC faculty.

In 1902 Anderson Hall was named after John A. Anderson, second president of the college (1873-79). He was one of the most outspoken, energetic and controversial figures ever to hold the post. While serving as pastor of the Presbyterian church in Junction City, Anderson condemned the administration of the Agricultural college in 1872 for failing to carry out its purpose.

When the Kansas State Board of Regents was reorganized in 1873 with a Granger majority, Anderson was selected by them to become the new president of KSAC. He had "no practical or theoretical knowledge of agriculture, "and no experience as a teacher. The Regents praised however, "his vigorous, pushing, talented" nature, and also his "quick comprehension of men and things."

Anderson's administration reversed previous policy. Courses in Greek and Latin were replaced with courses in farming, woodworking, blacksmithing, telegraphy, and printing. Anderson established a newspaper, The Industrialist, to defend the practical training he advocated. He also relocated the campus to a site with room for expansion. Two small new buildings for horticulture and a chemical laboratory were authorized in 1876 and constructed on the new campus.

Most Kansans seemed to approve of Anderson's direction and in the fall of 1878, he won the election for Congress from the First District. Anderson served the state in this position until 1891. His popularity probably led to the legislature's support for building the "College Main Building," but his political activities kept him away from the site for much of the time while the north wing was being built. The later sections of the building were constructed under the administration of George T. Fairchild, who replaced Anderson as president in December, 1879.

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For more than thirty years after Anderson Hall was completed, adjacent buildings were designed to be compatible in size, scale, and material. Anderson Hall was the dominant element in an informal, but coordinated scheme possibly influenced by the institutional plans made by F. L. Olmstead between 1860-80. The configuration of these buildings is complemented by a naturalistic landscape to the east. This was originally designed in 1882 by Maximilian Kern, who also laid out Forest Park in St. Louis. The character of this overall composition has been faithfully maintained so that Anderson Hall is an outstanding element of a well-preserved example of campus planning.

When Anderson Hall was first constructed, rising above predominately flat, treeless farmland, its profile was striking even though its detailing was plain--an expression considered appropriate for utilitarian buildings of the period and also indicative of a limited budget. The masonry work is some of the finest in a tradition of building with stone which began with the early settlement of the area in the 1850's.

By the time that the "College Main Building" was designated as Anderson Hall (1902), four other major buildings had been added to the KSAC campus. The University Library (1894), Domestic Science Hall (1898), Agricultural Hall (1900), and Physical Science Hall (1902) were structures with specialized functions, an indication of a changed orientation in planning based on the development of the university as a more complex institution.

Anderson Hall, however, has always served as a multi-purpose building. When it was described in 1901, it housed a chapel seating 650 persons, offices of the university president and secretary, post office, cloak rooms and studies, offices and classrooms of the departments of drawing, music, physics, electrical engineering, mathematics, oratory, English, and printing.

When the north wing was originally completed in 1879, it housed the library, president's office, professor of agriculture and classrooms for agriculture, English, and printing.

When the north wing was originally completed in 1879, it housed the library, president's office, professor of agriculture and classrooms for agriculture, English, and physics. A study room, physics laboratory, and offices were also provided.

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Currently, most of the central administrative offices of the university are located in Anderson Hall along with the postal center, data processing center, offices and classrooms of the psychology department.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE AMENDMENT.

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Willard, J. T. History of the Kansas State Agricultural College. (Manhattan, KS: Kansas State College Press, 1940).

Von Achen, Kurt. Lives and Works of Early Kansas Architects. thesis, M. Arch. Kansas University-Lawrence, KS. (1966).

Kansas Commercial News. Topeka, Kansas (November, 1901).

K-Stater. V. 12, No. 12, (January, 1963). (Manhattan, KS: KSU Alumni Association)

The Industrialist. Kansas State Agricultural College. (1877-1945).

Board Minutes, Officers of the College (1877-1945).

Records, Office of Physical Plant. KSU.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Anderson Hall is a complex masonry structure consisting of a 2½ story central block linked to two similar end blocks by 1½ story wings. There is an entrance tower over the central block. Sited at the crest of a low hill, this building is the visual focal point of a complex of buildings arranged around an oval lawn. There is an area of naturalistic landscape extending to the east of this open space.

The main entrance to Anderson Hall faces east. Entrances to the end blocks face north and south. The building has a truncated hip roof. Other elements, such as dormers and towers, contribute to a varied, though symmetrical silhouette. The entrance of each end block is accented by an abbreviated version of the central tower. There are dormers in the main roofs and in those of the lower connecting wings. Those above each north and south end wall as well as on the west side of the central block have ornate stone-faced surrounds.

The walls of Anderson Hall are built of coursed rough-pitched limestone. The basement level and building corners are subtly accented by the use of larger stones. Smooth cut stone is used to ornament the main entrance and to cap the arched windows.

Alterations

In 1945 exterior porches along the east side of the connecting wings were rebuilt to enclose additional office space. This alteration was performed with unusual sensitivity for the time and reflects the veneration which has long existed for the building. Original exterior stone was used to reface the addition. A basement was excavated under this addition and in 1946 a basement was also excavated under the north wing.

During the twentieth century all the brick chimneys which are shown in historic photographs of Anderson Hall were removed. Ornamental iron cresting at the edge of the flat roof sections has also been removed. In 1948 the original slate roof was replaced with a covering of asphalt shingles.

As early as 1933, exterior masonry was repointed with portland cement. Some stone was repaired in 1948. The east wall of the south wing was found structurally unstable in 1961 and rebuilt.

Although numerous interior remodeling have occurred, the halls and main stairways preserve much of the original character of the design. The chapel area was remodeled as early as 1919. The postal center was remodeled in 1930. Administrative office space was remodeled in 1952 and the stage in the chapel removed at this time.

When new sections of basement were excavated, new interior stairways were also constructed. The postal center was again remodeled in 1958. Offices on the second and third floors were remodeled in 1960. The president's office was remodeled in 1978.

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The nominated property is located on the Kansas State University Campus. It is bounded by Vattier Drive on the south, Oak Drive on the east to the intersection with Mid-Campus Drive, from the intersection southwest on Mid-Campus Drive to the intersection with paved walk which proceeds due west adjacent to the north side of Anderson Hall. The nominated property is bounded on the northwest by a paved parking area between Vattier Drive and the walk. The property is approximately two acres in size.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See attached sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

QUADRANGLE NAME Manhattan

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 708 960 434 028 5

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See attached sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Julie Wortman, Architectural Historian, Professor Richard Longstreth,

Professor of Architecture, KSU and Dale Nimz, Historic Preservation Department

ORGANIZATION

Ks. State Historical Society

DATE

10-1-80

STREET & NUMBER

120 West 10th

TELEPHONE

913 296-3251

CITY OR TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas 66612

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Joseph W. Sullivan

TITLE

Executive Director, Ks. State Historical Society

DATE

10-14-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

Anderson Hall
E: 708960
N: 4340285

